

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: HOF et al. Examiner: Unknown
Serial No.: 10/573,932 Group Art Unit: Unknown
Filed: March 22, 2006 Docket: 09124.0146USWO
Title: SELF ADJUSTING INSTRUMENT

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on May 18, 2006.

By: 

Name: Sarah Dannecker

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 4 Reference(s), Copy of International Search Report
- ☒ Other: Form PCT/ISA/237
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Merchant & Gould P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: 

Name: Gregory A. Sebald

Reg. No.: 33,280

GAS/sbd

S/N 10/573,932



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	HOF et al.	Examiner:	Unknown
Serial No.:	10/573,932	Group Art Unit:	Unknown
Filed:	March 22, 2006	Docket No.:	09124.0146USWO
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By:

Name: Sarah Dannecker

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were recently cited in an International Search Report mailed January 6, 2005.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

A copy of any foreign patent document or "Other Document" listed on the Form 1449 is enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2). Because this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. Patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided. Enclosed for the Examiner's information is a copy of the International Search Report.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a

reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.


Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.




Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Dated: May 18, 2006

By: 
Gregory A. Sebold
Reg. No. 33,280

GAS/sbd

FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)			Docket Number: 09124.0146USWO	Application Number: 10/573,932
			Applicant: HOF et al.	
	Filing Date: March 22, 2006	Group Art Unit: Unknown		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,343,929	02/2002	Fischer			
	6,340,027	01/2002	Hagne et al.			
	2003/044752	03/2003	Fischer et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		
		Saunders et al., "Technical standard of root canal treatment in an adult Scottish sub-population", British Dental Journal (1997); 182(10): 382-386
		Tan et al., "The Quality of Apical Canal Preparation Using Hand and Rotary Instruments with Specific Criteria for Enlargement Based on Initial Apical File Size", Journal of Endodontics (2002); 28(9): 658-664
		Wu et al., "Prevalence and extent of long oval canals in the apical third", Endodontics (2000); 89(6): 739-743
		Wu et al., "A primary observation on the preparation and obturation of oval canals", International Endodontic Journal (2001); 34: 137-141

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	